

Recreation Commission Minutes - DRAFT
February 18, 2015

Chairman John Lembeck called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM

Attendance:

Chairman John Lembeck – present; Commissioners: Dan Bavuso, Mike Cecil, Kerry Chandler, Jim Dengler, Sharon Greener, were present. Commissioner Robert McGinty was absent. Recreation Director Sarah Orsay and Councilman Ben Day were also present.

Public Comment Portion:

There were no members of the public present.

Chairman's Announcements

None

Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Bavuso raised the motion to approve the January 2015 Meeting Minutes, Ms. Chandler seconded, and all were in favor.

REPORTS

Parks

Victory Park – Ms. Orsay will arrange a meeting with playground equipment reps in the springtime.

Programs

Crew – Ms. Orsay reported that high school winter conditioning program will run until the mid-March High School tryouts. The Booster group is comprised of 6 parents who are responsible for the fundraising to support the high school club sport, estimated to cost approximately \$50,000 annually. This amount includes coaches' salaries and expenses, equipment maintenance and supplies for the spring, transportation costs, regatta fees, and reinvestment costs.

Basketball – The Rec basketball season is going well. Ms. Orsay has received positive feedback from all levels. The March Madness Tournament for Grades 5-8 commences next week and promises to again be a season highlight.

Baseball/Softball/T-Ball – Spring sports registration is complete. Ms. Orsay reviewed the season's participant registration numbers and reported that the majority of coaches were in place. Overall, numbers were commensurate with 2014, with Baseball/Softball/Tball showing increased strength from last year. She also announced a TRLL cadet umpire opportunity for teenagers has been posted on the Rumson Rec web site. Finally, Ms. Orsay announced that resident Bob Oakes had resigned from the Two River Little League Board. Ms. Orsay indicated that Mr. Oakes was a valued member of the Board, but had joined the Board as a charter member to get the program started and was ready to hand the reigns to a parent member. Mr. Bavuso and Mr. Lembeck nominated Rodney Shenman as Mr. Oakes replacement and Mr. Shenman was unanimously confirmed by the Commission.

RFH Girls Lacrosse – Ms. Chandler updated the Commission that Fair Haven residents Scott and Heather Boyle had offered to coach and administer both Lacrosse Tournament teams. In addition, Joe DeVito said that he would help coach the Grade 7/8 team. Thus, there will be tryouts in April for the team. In order to reduce the drain on Rec

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participation numbers, there will be a Rec Lax participation requirement for girls on the Select Team, similar to Little League participation requirements for playoffs.

Travel Baseball – The 10U and 11U tryouts are complete and the teams have been chosen. The 8U team is running independently as Rumson Recreation does not sponsor travel teams at the second grade level, but the team is adhering to Rumson Recreation travel policies in anticipation of being an official Rumson Rec approved travel team next year. As a follow up to a (denied) exception request from the January meeting, Ms. Orsay reported that the coach of the 9U team anticipates that he will have enough players tryout (estimated 14) but feels he may need two legacy players. Mr. Bavuso raised a motion that an exception be made for the two players. Mr. Cecil seconded the motion with the proviso that the underage players be grandfathered for one year only. The remaining three RC members present voted against the motion since there are enough players to fill out a team and the motion was denied, no exception granted.

Travel Basketball – The Council went into closed session from 7.45pm-7.55pm to discuss a personnel issue.

Committees

Travel Sports Policies – Ms. Orsay informed the RC that she did a comparative study of how other NJ Rec Departments handle travel sports. The study was not discussed, but could be discussed further in a working group session.

Special Events – Mr. Lembeck confirmed that the **KDM Rumson Run** was cancelled.

Ms. Orsay informed the RC that residents Bob McGinty, Shane Fallon, and Joan Duckworth would be judges for the best Rumson float at the **Rumson St. Patrick's Day Parade**, March 8. Rumson Rec will not enter a float this year as Ms. Orsay will be at the NJRPA conference in Atlantic City.

The RC agreed that **Rumson Day** should be postponed to Sep 27, the day of the Rumson Boat Race, assuming volunteers could be found to organize the Day.

Ms. Orsay confirmed that Rumson Recreation will be co-sponsor four **Summer Movies in the Park** at Fair Haven Fields this summer.

Administrative

Ms. Orsay announced that per the Borough CFO the Rumson Recreation would no longer accept unfunded registrations on-line, i.e., selecting to pay by check with the promise of delivering the check to Borough Hall. The amount of unpaid registrations typically ran into the thousands each season with the Recreation Director and CFO being forced to act as a collection agency, which is both time consuming and creates ill will with the residents affected. In the new system, those wishing to pay by check/cash/waiver, must fill out a paper registration form with payment, in addition to having an on-line family account.

Ms. Orsay reported that the Fall Open Registration Deadline will be extended from Jun 1 to Jun 15, in conjunction with the new \$50 Late Fee effective for Fall registrations, in an effort to encourage on-time registration.

Ms. Orsay reported that she would again be attending the Annual NJRPA conference in Atlantic City March 8-10.

Treasurer's Report

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Ms. Orsay reviewed the Treasurer's Report, highlighting possible major expenditures on the horizon including refurbishing the Victory Park tennis courts, the Meadow Ridge Path, contribution towards the proposed Turf field, and a possible contribution toward the Forrestdale gym floor replacement project.

Old Business

Code of Conduct / Mission Statement – No update.

Background Check Policy and Procedures – Ms. Orsay is continuing to work with Chief Paterson and Borough Administrator Rogers on facilitating an easier process for those being checked after the initial fingerprint check.

Proposed Shower at Victory Park – Ms. Orsay reported to Mr. Rogers that the RC was not in favor of a shower at VP due to concerns of vandalism resulting in flooding, and young children getting soaked and muddy playing with it. The RC suggested they would consider approving it if on only during events and if it were abused the town would turn it off permanently.

New business

Ms. Orsay suggested putting **lock boxes at all the fields** containing cones and pinnies, ice packs and extra first aid kits, so these are readily available for coaches. The RC was not opposed.

Ms. Orsay also inquired about putting **player benches** at the fields, namely MRE and MRC. The RC was against this proposal.

Ms. Orsay sought approval for US Sports Institute tennis camp. The RC approved one weekday, no weekends.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 18 at 7 PM at the Charles S Callman courtroom.

The meeting adjourned at 8.50PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Orsay